of small scale industrial units (registered and unregistered) in the country as at the end of March, 2002 is estimated to be Rs. 34.42 lakhs. Information on closed units is not maintained centrally. However, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) compiles data on sick SSI units financed by scheduled commercial Banks. As per the latest information available with the RBI, there were 2,49,630 sick units in the country as at the end of March, 2001.

The Government is fully seized of the incidence of industrial sickness among SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units, which *inter-alia* include institutional mechanism in the form of State-level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs), Special Rehabilitation Cells in Banks and State Financial Institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the RBI for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units. The RBI has issued revised guidelines for rehabilitation of sick SSI units in January, 2002 which include *inter-alia* change in the definition of sick SSI units, norms for deciding on their viability, etc.

Under the Credit Guarantee Scheme, the Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for small Industries (CGTSI) provides guarantee cover in respect of collateral-free loans extended by eligible lending institutions to new and existing SSI units upto Rs. 25 lakh per borrowing unit. As on 30th June, 2002, 30 eligible institutions including 28 Banks have become Member Lending Institutions (MLI) of CGTSI. Upto 30th June, 2002, cumulative number of proposals approved under the scheme were 4954 for aggregate loan amount of Rs. 51.38 crores.

(c) Yes, Government is contemplating to enact legislation for the development of small scale industries in the country.

SSIs in Tamil Nadu

2487. SHRI CHO. S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small scale industries in Tamil Nadu;

(b) how many of them have been declared as sick;

(c) how many workers were employed in these units;

(d) how many workers have been rendered unemployed due to sickness/lock out of these units; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to revive these sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) As per the information received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu, the number of small scale industries registered upto 31.03.2002 is 3,76,401. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) compiles data on sick SSI units financed by scheduled commercial Banks. As per the latest information available with the RBI, there were 9,959 sick units in the State of Tamil Nadu at the end of March, 2001. Data on workers engaged/ rendered unemployed in these sick industries are not maintained centrally.

(e) The Government is fully seized of the incidence of industrial sickness among SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units, which *inter- alia* include institutional mechanism in the form of State-level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLIICs), Special Rehabilitation Cells in Banks and State Financial Institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the RBI for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units.

Based on the recommendations of the Working Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S.S. Kohli, the then Chairman of Indian Bank's Association, the RBI has drawn up revised guidelines for rehabilitation of sick SSI units, which include *inter-alia* change in the definition of sick SSI units, norms for deciding on their viability, etc. The RBI has circulated the revised guidelines of 16th January, 2002 to all the Banks for implementation.

Incentive to SSIs in Rajasthan

2488. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India and the